

INDEXA



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INFORMATION  
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ISSUE 29  
SUMMER 1994

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A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio, worldwide peace and friendship

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## DXPEDITIONING BASICS

INDEXA is pleased to be involved in Wayne Mill's, N7NG, publication. At first it would appear to be a publication mainly for those going on dxpeditions. While it does a good job at that, it is also written in a manner for those of us that play radio from our home. The best way to work a dxpedition is to know their plan of attack. Put another way, know how they may operate before you start the hunt for a new one.

OK, now you understand how they may be operating but it isn't working very well, no contact yet. The other part to understand is how you should be operating. Why you? Because if the DX is following some of the suggested guides, he expects YOU to operate in a certain manner also. If both of you follow a known method of operating, life is easier for both of you. You make the contact you want and he hopefully has an easier time putting more Qs in the log.

The following comments are from those that have reviewed Wayne's book.  
QRZ DX by Bob Winn, W5KNE

DXpeditioning Basics is not a big book, but it more than adequately defines a basic set of guidelines that cover the operational issues of DXpeditioning. The author, Wayne Mills, N7NG (and many DX and DXpedition calls) is well qualified to write about this subject. The book covers subject matter that is primarily written for DXpedition organizers, leaders and operators, but it also contains information that will benefit all DXers. It discusses the following main topics: DXpedition objects and organization, who to work, pileup management, QSO mechanics, frustration management, feedback, QSLing policy, ethics; and much more.

Wayne's book provides easily understood guidelines that cover the majority of situations that will be encountered by DXpeditions. Once again the book is dealing with guidelines, not rules and obviously these may be adapted or adjusted to fit a situation or operating style.

The DX Magazine by Chod Harris, VP2ML

Wayne uses some specific examples from his own DXpedition experiences to illustrate many of his suggestions for successful DXpeditioning. While many of his points would appear to be common sense, one needs only listen to some poorly run DXpeditions to understand how much this slim publication is needed by the DX community. Other points may seem strange to someone who has never been on a serious DXpedition, such as the vital importance of maintaining rhythm in a pileup. Wayne covers topics as diverse as how to handle portables to picking specific frequencies for different parts of the world. No DXer who even considers going out on a DXpedition should fail to read this book, and re-read it. Furthermore, the book has considerable value even for the stay-at-homes.

"DXpeditioning Basics" is published jointly by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the International DX Association (INDEXA). It is available postpaid in the US for \$5, from INDEXA, PO Box 607, Rock Hill, SC 29731. For foreign airmail, add another US\$5.

cont, pg 2

A letter dated March 16, 1994:

INDEXA c/o W4WMQ

Dear Murphy:

We have received the copies of DXpeditioning Basics from the printer. They look very good.

ARRL is pleased to be co-publisher with INDEXA. Author Wayne Mills, N7NG, has identified potential problem areas for DXpeditioners, and he tells them how to deal effectively with those problems.

Some time ago, the ARRL Board of Directors expressed concern over the ethics and practices of DXpeditions. Wayne speaks with authority to these issues-and more, and what he says is in agreement with the sentiments of the League leadership.

I trust that those who read DXpeditioning Basics will put Wayne's advice into practice.

Sincerely and with 73,

Charles L. Hutchinson, K8CH  
Membership Services Manager

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LA2TD N0RM WD5CQG XE2ZLW VA3EU LA8CJ PY2YN N5DRV NI6P JG3LZG W7LR W5XX W1ENE  
W1WRN N7KPX KD0JL KA5RIP KG7IZ W9NUB N9JCL KP4EIT N9LWI DL1GST AL7MZ EA7ADH  
AA7WP KA1OWA(EX J37AH) NS2G N2TLR VE7AUX WD4FZO K8CH KA7OCW OE500674 KM4LS  
ARRL KF7AY WB2MWW KD4LZT N8AID KD3AI WDX2TAU W6KUS IV3FSG WV1Y P29RB KN6BD  
W5KFN G-20415 NCDXF WB8GKX WA4VQD ZP5HSB W5MD N7NG 9K2GS KA2WXU HI8LC W1LW  
W0JRN W3DR KC0OS WA2PYI V73C AB4HU and W4USW.

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**NEW LIFE MEMBERS:**

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WL7EM IV3FSG WV1Y KN4FO G-20415 N6QI WA2PYI KA2WXU and LA6MP.

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**SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND DXPEDITION:**

Al Hernandez, WA3YVN, will head-up a dxpedition to this needed island in January 1995. You may be assured this one will be a go because a majority of the funds are spent. Also Al personally accompanied the freight to the dock and watched the donations from all the manufacturers being loaded. All 2500 pounds were loaded on to the research vessel, the ABEL-J in Fairhaven, Mass during June. He has permission to land at Grytviken, South Georgia and a special call has been permitted. The call has something to do with a big bird that can't fly!!

Your help will be needed later after the operation. Funds to cover the upfront cost and deposits have been paid in full but this doesn't cover the bottom line total expenses. A minimum of three operators will cover most bands and modes starting in January 1995. INDEXA will print and manage all QSL cards and the route will be via POB 5127 Suffolk, VA 23435. They still need support for food, travel, generators, fuel, tents etc. This may go directly to WA3YVN Al Hernandez POB 2235 Melbourne, FL 32902. Afterwards, your assistance is requested with your request for a QSL. Al has stated he hopes to have the cards printed and going out within 3 weeks after the dxpedition. Also he said he agrees with N7NG's DXpeditioning Basics publication and will follow the guidelines on this operation. If you work them, you will do it one on one, on your own.. 73's

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**INDEXA STAFF MEMBERS:**

At times there seems to be some confusion about who are the REAL staff members. This happens when someone other than a staff member helps us during the information sessions. We are thankful for the assistance they provide. There are only eight (8) staff members which are: NS6B Al, KA3HXO Richard, W6CNA Dick, VP2MO Bobbie, KF7SH Hugh, N5QGO Paul, KB6KTV Don and AA4KT Ron.

## OFFICER PROFILE:

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### DIRECTOR: ARNFINN KRISTOFFERSEN LA8CJ

My interest in electronics started when I was a child. The first schematic diagram I saw was in an electronic building type book I received for Christmas. The diagrams triggered my interest in the electronic field. However, many years passed before I learned about amateur radio. I first noticed the words, amateur radio, in a Norwegian issue of Popular Mechanics. The diagram was that of a transmitter and using it without a license from the Telcom Authority was not legal. The magazine did list the address of the NRRL for those that wanted more information. This was the beginning of my amateur radio life.

I started by listening on a BC receiver without a BFO. It was by listening to AM BC stations on 40 and 80 meters that I learned about amateur radio in general and electronics. In the old days, hams often talked about their building projects on the air.



LA8CJ

Only when an amateur radio receiver was brought into our house did the world of amateur radio really open up. I soon became interested in looking for stations outside of my area and Europe. This is the way I learned about the mechanism of propagation.

There were no hams in the area where I grew up, so I studied for the amateur radio license on my own. Years passed and the license was not in hand before I moved from my home town to a city with a local group which arranged tests for a license.

When I received my license in 1965 I had 50 watts on AM and was ready to work DX. I soon discovered 50 watts of AM wasn't the tool to work the DX I wanted in my logbook. CW was the way to do it then and I still prefer that mode of operation.

When CW DXCC was announced, I planned to get it quickly and try not to miss any dxpedition on CW. To my surprise, most of them worked phone only and you had to ask them

to switch to CW for a contact. Even if this was legal, I didn't like this way of working DX. I soon stopped trying for the CW DXCC. A few years later my friend, LA3XI, challenged me to take up working on my CW DXCC work again. Then we started to work on the award. I also started to listen in the phone band for countries I needed. If one was found, I would ask him to switch to CW for a short QSO. This way of working new countries became a barrier to break.

From 1965 to 1975, I was QRV only during vacations when I visited my parents, where my station was located. From 1989 to 1992 I was QRT. Since 1992, I have been mainly QRV in connection only with the LAs operating from abroad. Such as 3Y2GV from Antarctica, E35X and 5H/LA6VM.

Due to being off the air at times, I have lost a few new ones, but I did become the first LA to get Honor Roll for CW DXCC. Having this, then I became the first LA to hold Mixed, Phone and CW Honor Roll at the same time. As a result of inactivity the past few years, I have been dropped from the Honor Roll on Phone and CW. I may be dropped from mixed if I continue to be QRT. I do have 5BDXCC on the wall also.

I supported the creation of the LA-DX-Group in 1978 and have served as a board member for the group. I have been DX editor of Amatorradio which is published by the NRRL. I have written some of the chapters in a teaching book for ham license published by the Scandinavian University Press and the NRRL. I am also a member of NCDXF and INDEXA.

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### BULLETIN BOARD:

\* We now have a new FAX number. It is 803 325 2121. Send your FAX to us only between 1200 and 0100 UTC. Depending on the need, we may respond by the postal service, so include your mailing address.

\* NCDXF Press Release dated 24 June 1994.....The NCDXF Board of Directors have re-elected the following officers: Eric Edberg, W6DU, president; K6TMB, vice president; W6ISQ, corresponding secretary; K6UD, recording secretary and W6OSP as treasurer.

Our Secretary Bill, W4UNP will provide a new service for **members only** on a trial basis. If you can't or may be unable to check in on our information sessions for QSL routes, write to Bill. Always an SASE, contact date and a maximum of 5 request per letter.

Bill will continue to provide this limited service until such time that it adds too much to his present duties.

This service is via POB 607 only. Do not send via the fax.

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